

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 19, 2007

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boehner
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Rangel
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jim McCrery
Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader Boehner, Chairman Rangel and Ranking Member McCrery:

As Members of the High Tech Caucus and other members concerned with maintaining our competitiveness in High Tech industries, we would like to ask your assistance in enhancing and extending the research and development (R&D) tax credit before its scheduled expiration on December 31, 2007. A one-year extension was included in the original tax package that passed the House this year, but was cut out of the bill. Specifically, we request that we consider a seamless multi-year extension, with the goal of making the enhanced credit permanent.

The R&D tax credit has proven to be one of the best methods to encourage investment and employment in the United States, especially in the area of high tech. Continued research and development is a vital element of America's innovation economy and international competitiveness. Furthermore, many other nations already offer generous research tax incentives and the U.S. must not fall behind in research-intensive fields. We must do what we can to keep our high tech, cutting-edge businesses competitive and headquartered in the United States.

We urge you to extend and improve the R&D tax credit and we are committed to working with you to enact this important legislation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Wm. L. Mearl Thos. E. Gilliland

Brian P. Gilman

David Wein

Pete Sessions

Michael Mottudo

Marston Blackburn

Daniel Lipshitz

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